

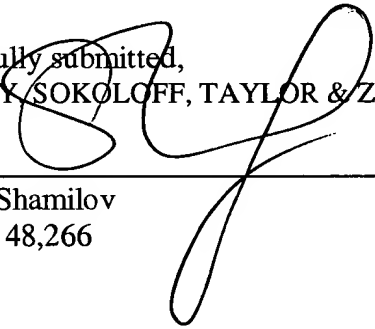
REMARKS

The Applicants submit specification amendments correcting a mistake of a typographical nature. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED UP VERSION OF THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 62, first paragraph, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 4 and ending at line 14 of page 63 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--**Figure 19** is a flow chart illustrating a method 500, according to one exemplary embodiment of the present invention, of managing user authorization to publish, or permit access to, a user knowledge profile. The method 500 is executed by the case controller 45A that tracks open "cases" and initiates notification to users concerning the status of such cases. For the purposes of the present specification, the term "case" may be taken to refer to a user authorization process for publication of, or access to, a user knowledge profile. The method 500 commences at step 502, and then proceeds to step [504] 503, where a match is detected with a private portion of a user knowledge profile. At step 504, the case controller 45A then opens a case, and notifies the target user at step 506 concerning the "hits" or matches between a document (or query) term and a knowledge term in a knowledge user profile. This notification may be by way of an e-mail message, or by way of publication of information on a Web page accessed by the user. At step 508, the case controller 45A determines whether an expiration date, by which the target user is required to respond to the hit, has been reached or in fact passed. If the expiration date has passed, the case controller 45A closes the case and the method 500 terminates. Alternatively, a determination is made at decision box 510 as to whether the target user has responded to the notification by authorizing publication of, or access to, his or her user knowledge profile based on the hit on the private portion thereof. If the target user has not authorized such action (i.e., declined authorization), an inquiring user (e.g., the author user of an e-mail or a user performing a manual database search to locate an expert) is notified of the decline at step 512. Alternatively, should the target user have authorized publication or access, the inquiring user is similarly notified of the authorization at step 514. The notification of the inquiring user at steps 512 or 514 may be performed by transmitting an e-mail to the inquiring user, or by providing a suitable indication on a web page (e.g., a home page or search/query web page) accessed by the inquiring user. At step 516, the appropriate portions of the user profile pertaining to the target user are published to the inquiring user, or the inquiring user is otherwise permitted

access to the user profile. At step 518, the case controller 45A then closes the case, whereafter the method terminates.--

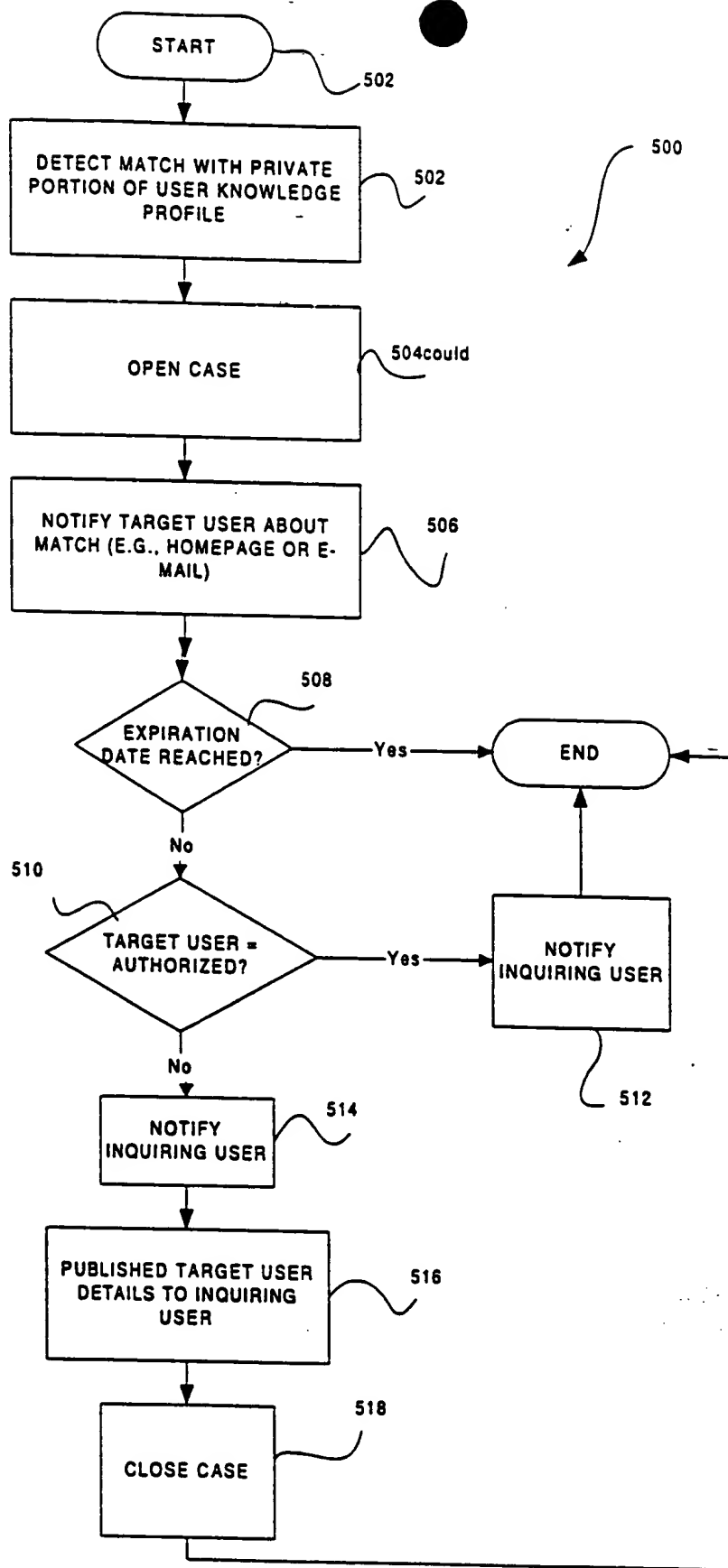


FIGURE 19



112

USER ID	TERM ID	CONFIDENCE LEVEL	CONFIDENCE MEMORY	TIME STAMP
1	101	990	990	9812120800
1	106	976	976	9807241400
1	207	950	950	9805121200
.
.
.
1	67	310	310	9812241900
1	98	300	300	9802110700
1	116	290	290	9804120900
1	190	287	287	9806060900
.
.
.
8	107	995	995	9811191000
8	128	992	992	9811201000
8	154	900	900	9712291300
.
.
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8	62	370	370	9812181421
8	8	300	300	9812211600
8	52	207	207	9802021647
8	261	200	200	9802221147
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FIG. 22



112

USER ID	TERM ID	CONFIDENCE LEVEL	CONFIDENCE MEMORY	TIME STAMP
1	101	990	990	9812120800
1	106	976	976	9807241400
1	207	950	950	9805121200
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1	67	310	310	9812241900
1	98	300	900-900	9802110700
1	116	290	290	9804120900
1	190	287	800-287	9806060900
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8	107	995	995	9811191000
8	128	992	992	9811201000
8	154	900	995-900	9712291300
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.
.
8	62	370	370	9812181421
8	8	300	300	9812211600
8	52	207	150-207	9802021647
8	261	200	200	9802221147
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92	94	118	121	123

FIG. 22